

# Merchant & Gould

An Intellectual Property Law Firm

3200 IDS Center  
80 South Eighth Street  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
55402-2215 USA  
TEL 612.332.5300  
FAX 612.332.9081  
[www.merchant-gould.com](http://www.merchant-gould.com)

Fax Transmission | March 17, 2005

---

To: EXAMINER P. SMALL From: LISA DORN /CURTIS B.  
Company: USPTO HAMRE  
Your Ref: 10/628771 Our Ref.: 12844.38US01  
Fax No.: 703 746 4272 Fax No.: 612.332.9081  
Phone No.: Phone No.: 612.371.5234  
State/Country: Total Pages: 2  
Confirmation Via Mail:  Yes  No E-Mail: [ldorn@merchant-gould.com](mailto:ldorn@merchant-gould.com)  
Return Fax To:

---

Document Transmitted: Page 26 of Specification

Message:

---

This transmission contains information that is confidential and/or legally privileged. It is intended for use only by the person to whom it is directed. If you have received this telecopy in error, please notify us by telephone immediately so that we can arrange for the return of the original documents to us.

If you did NOT receive all of the pages, please call us in the U.S.A. at 612.336.4664 or fax us at 612.332.9081.

the respective collars 161, 161. The retainer 171 is such that an externally threaded portion 171b is screwed into the collar 121 from a side facing the inside of the passenger compartment to be fixed in  
5 place therein and such that a head portion 171a is passed through the collar members 161, 161 which are passed through the pass-through hole 141c in the proximal mount portion 141b of the arm 141. Then, a cap 181 is mounted in an opening 200 formed in the  
10 proximal mount portion 141b of the arm 141 on a side facing the inside of the passenger compartment in such a manner as to cover a rearward biasing force S1, which will be described later on.

The rearward biasing spring S1 is disposed in  
15 the opening 200 in the proximal mount portion 141b of the arm 141, and an inner terminal portion IT of the rearward biasing spring S1 is integrally fixed to a moving side locking portion 191c formed on the head portion 171a of the retainer 171, whereas an  
20 outer terminal portion OT of the rearward biasing spring S1 is allowed to be locked on a stationary side locking piece 100d of the proximal mount portion 141b of the arm.

Consequently, in this embodiment, too, when the  
25 second rear seat 4 rotates from the vertical state B